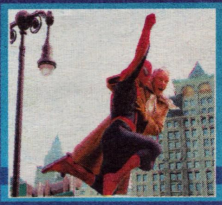
No 766 May 16, 2004

THE FUNDAY TIMES



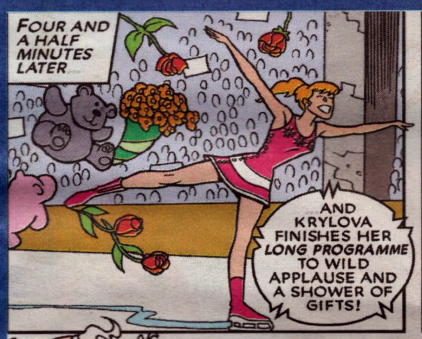
Blockbusting
Funday gives you the lowdown on all the top movies arriving soon
Page 6

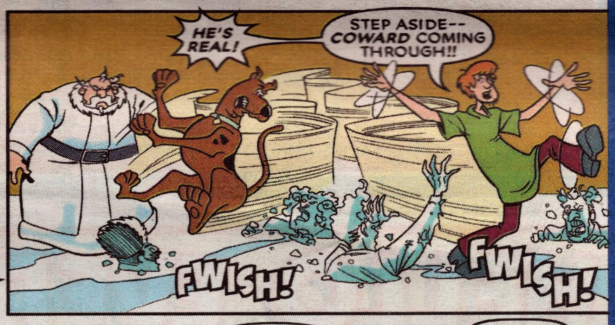
Lapping it up
Win It! has a smart Compaq laptop up for grabs in a cool Nestlé competition
Page 8

All the Raven
We have an on-set exclusive from Disney Channel's That's So Raven
Page 9

SCOOBY-DOO! in ICY RECEPTION

The story so far – Russian skate queen Natasha Krylova is about to take to the ice so the gang are ready to pounce!

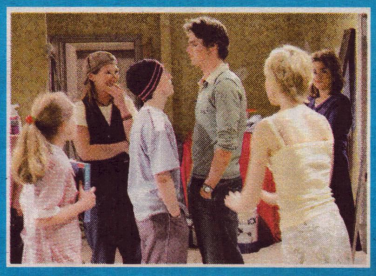




STREET TALK

There's a serious side to soap operas as Jay Bunyan – who's Jack Scully in Neighbours – reveals

Jay, what's been your toughest scene while at Neighbours?
The most difficult scene was when my sister on the show, Steph, announced to me that she had breast cancer. It was so hard because it was such a moving scene – it was like it could've been true.



How did you prepare for those scenes?
I put a lot of thought into the story line. I imagined Carla Bonner [the actress who plays Steph] to be a real family member to me and thought about what it would be like to hear such news. It really moved me.

Had you any personal experience of cancer before that in real life?
When I was quite young, my grandmother died from cancer. The mother of a good friend of mine also passed away from cancer just as we went into this story line, so it was a little bit too close to home for me.

Hasn't your pop star co-star Delta Goodrem also been seriously ill?
Yes, which made it even more difficult. Delta has Hodgkin's Disease, which is something to do with the lymph gland in your neck. She actually had to leave the show to get over it.

How's Delta doing?
We're pretty close mates so I've been keeping in touch with her over the past few months. She was pretty ill a while ago, but it's all good again now – she's well on form and hopefully will return to the show soon.

Did you have to do any research on cancer for your role?
No, I was just the dumb brother who had to be there as a shoulder to cry on. But cancer has been through my family so I knew a bit about it. Carla did loads of research for her role and she filled me in on the rest.

Do you think it's important for Neighbours to deal with issues such as cancer?
Yes, for sure. Such a wide variety of people watch this show and cancer is something that affects so many people. It's good to be able to spread the word. Who knows? We might actually be able to save a life by making someone more aware of it.

WHAT IS CANCER?

What exactly is cancer? Here's a brief guide to the disease ...

- Cancer is a group of many related diseases that all have to do with cells. Cells are microscopic units that make up all living things – there are billions of cells in everyone's body
- Cancer occurs when abnormal cells grow and spread quickly. Normal cells in your body grow and divide – they know when to stop growing and die. Cancer cells are different because they continue to grow and divide out of control, and they don't die
- A cluster of abnormal cells is called a tumour. Some tumours are benign, or harmless, and often don't need treatment. But malignant tumours [the cancers] can spread. They may be dangerous because they can invade nearby parts of the body and stop them functioning properly
- Doctors aren't sure why some people get cancer and others don't. But one thing is for sure – cancer in kids is rare. Doctors also know that it is not contagious. You can't catch cancer from someone who has it so don't be afraid of people with it

COVER CARTOON SCOOBY-DOO AND ALL RELATED CHARACTERS AND ELEMENTS ARE TRADEMARKS OF AND © HANNA-BARBERA (S04)

HELLO EVERYONE!

With summer on the way, it's time to look forward to all the big films that will be on offer this year – and it's set to be a great season for cinema. The action kicks off later this month with The Day After Tomorrow, an awesome special effects extravaganza from the makers of Independence Day. For the inside scoop on this and all the cool blockbusters that will be hitting the big screen in the next few months, turn to the centre pages for Funday's exclusive previews.

Talking of previews, on page 11 we meet The 411, a new UK girlgroup who promise to bring a fresh new sound to the charts. Tanya, Suzie, Tisha and Carolyn have been described as the hip-hop Supremes but the girls say that's not the full picture since their music includes a blend of pop, R&B and funk.

Do you know yet what you'll be doing this summer? Whatever you get up to, and even if you stay at home, why not send Funday a postcard? We'll be making space in the paper this summer for all your cards and holiday snaps, so make sure you send yours in. Don't forget, when you send us an e-mail, we send you back a selection of Funday jokes. And the good news is the jokes change every week!

Dave

Dave, editor

THE FUNDAY TIMES

COMPETITIONS

Send answers to all competitions to us at: The Funday Times, PO Box 5073, Leighton Buzzard LU95 1AY or funday.comps@sunday-times.co.uk [only one e-mail per entrant please]
Competition deadline: May 26
Entrants to Funday competitions must be 16 and under.

F-MAIL

Send your letters, cartoons, jokes and drawings to: The Funday Times, PO Box 5073, Leighton Buzzard LU7 7GX or funday.times@sunday-times.co.uk

NOT RECEIVED YOUR PRIZE?

Please telephone 020 7711 1521 or e-mail custserv@fundaytimes.co.uk

GOT A NEWS STORY?

Please telephone 020 7782 7415 or e-mail funday.news@sunday-times.co.uk

PICTURES: BBC ONE ©GRUNDY/PEARSON TV ©FREMANTLE MEDIA. COVER PICTURE: COLUMBIA TRISTAR

7 DAYS

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WORLD THIS WEEK

NABAS
The Balloon Association

TODAY

The first Academy Awards ceremony took place 75 years ago in the USA. The famous statuettes became known as Oscars when the academy secretary said they looked like her Uncle Oscar! • Watch the skies as National Balloon Week takes off. There will be balloon releases, competitions and events across the country.

MONDAY

Sven-Goran Eriksson names the England squad for Euro 2004. Twenty-three players will be selected for the tournament in Portugal, which starts on June 14 • The European Tall Person Convention gets underway in Basel, Switzerland. Those invited will enjoy the high life with planned events including a ball, walking trips and themed parties.

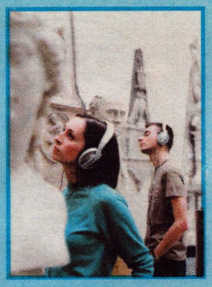
TUESDAY

The Chicken Shed Theatre celebrates its 30th anniversary by working with youth theatres all over the world • Pope John Paul II turns 84 and marks the occasion by publishing a book about his experiences as a bishop • Allied forces captured the monastery of Monte Cassino from Nazi German forces, 60 years ago. This was a major victory in the second world war as the troops stationed there were blocking the route to Rome.

WEDNESDAY

An amazing collection of letters and notes by Sherlock Holmes creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, is being auctioned in London. They were found in a law firm's office, having been lost for 40 years. Lots include the handwritten manuscript of Conan Doyle's first novel, which was never published • National Be Nice to Nettles Week gets underway. Nettles provide food for caterpillars and can even be used for medicines.

THURSDAY



A new exhibition – Shhh ... Sounds in Spaces – opens at London's Victoria and Albert Museum. Visitors wear headphones connected to an MP3 player – passing by infra-red sensors sets off soundtracks for different exhibits • The world-famous Glyndebourne Festival runs until August 29. Highlights for opera lovers include performances of Bizet's Carmen.

FRIDAY

Fifa – the Football Federation's international body – was set up 100 years ago in Paris. Special football exhibitions will be unveiled at London's Royal Academy and County Hall in June • The Bath International Music Festival sounds off with a picnic at Royal Victoria Park. There will be an attempt to break the world record for the largest saxophone band • Sotheby's auction house is putting Igor Stravinsky's score for his Petrushka ballet under the hammer. It's expected to fetch more than £1.5m.

SATURDAY

The BMF Show – Europe's largest outdoor motorcycle show – takes place in Peterborough. An incredible stunt display will see riders swapping between bikes and horses • Will Young begins his UK tour tonight at St David's Hall, Cardiff. Dates at Oxford, Ipswich, Bournemouth and Bristol follow next week • National Moth Night takes place today and tonight. This year naturalists are looking out for the false mocha, the netted mountain moth and the narrow-bordered bee hawk moth.

PICTURES: PA/COURTESY UMIST/MYUNG JUNG KIM, AP/HIROKO MASUIKE, REUTERS/DARREN STAPLES, ©KEVIN DAVIES

NEWS

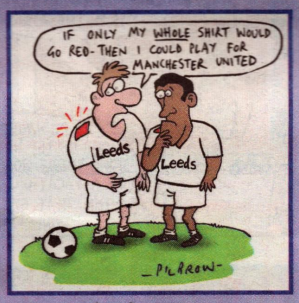
MAKING WAVES

It's not that unusual for a 12-year-old to visit France – but not many make the trip in a rowing boat. Brianna Stubbs from Poole has entered the record books by becoming the youngest person to row across the English Channel. The crew of four, which also included Brianna's dad, Mark, took 23 hours and 48 minutes to make the voyage aboard the 10m-long Pink Lady. "I tried to row most of the way, but I was let off one rowing shift because I was falling asleep," explained Brianna. "It was definitely harder than I expected." Brianna made the return journey on the support boat – and spent the time revising for exams at school. The Pink Lady crew, minus Brianna, will be grabbing their oars again in June to row across the Atlantic!

SPACE SNAP

This astonishing picture taken by the Hubble Space Telescope shows a dying star 4,000 light years away from Earth. When a star's life finishes, much of its gas escapes to form incredible clouds like these. Called the Bug Nebula, or NGC 6302, the central star has never been seen and is hidden from view by a dusty ring. Researchers from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology are investigating the nebula, trying to discover why the dust clouds have formed this amazing butterfly wing shape. They also revealed that although there are around 1,000 similar nebulae in the Milky Way, NGC 6302 has the hottest star – which is around 250,000C.

LEEDS TOP!



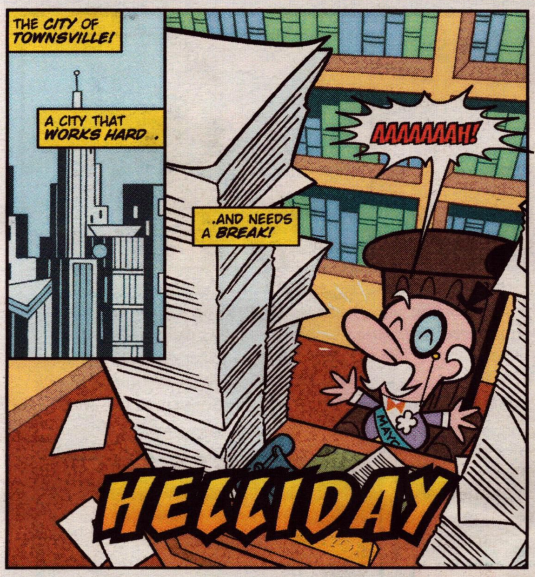
Not many Leeds United players could be called hot stuff after their dismal season. But they'll definitely need to turn up the heat for their next campaign. Leeds' new home kit launches on June 5 and includes a shirt with a special logo on the shoulder. Designed by Diadora, it changes colour as the wearer's body temperature increases. It will help separate those players who stay in the game for 90 minutes from those who are just having a stroll around the pitch. Now, if Mark Viduka could use the same technology to turn a referee's card from red to yellow ... he'd spend more time on the pitch!

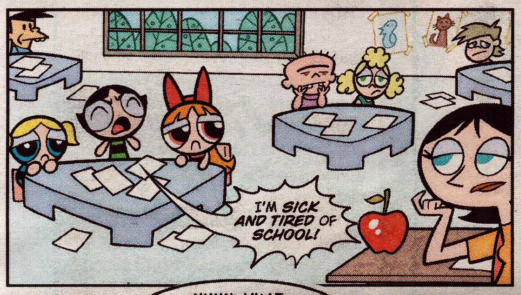
SHIP TRIP

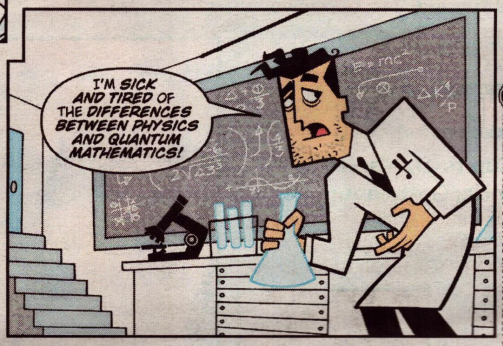
The Queen Elizabeth 2 has made its last voyage from the US to the UK, after departing on April 25 from New York Harbour. And to make the journey extra special, the famous liner brought along its big sis, the Queen Mary 2! Despite the cold weather, thousands of onlookers cheered the ships as they left the Big Apple. The two vessels sailed in tandem until they reached Southampton earlier this month. The QM2, which is replacing the QE2, is the world's largest ocean liner. It weighs 136,000 tonnes, is three times the size of the Titanic and even contains a two-storey theatre.

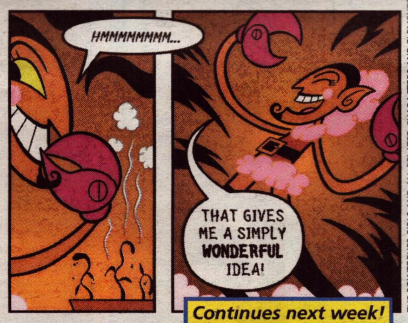
RK

THE POWERPUFF GIRLS HELLIDAY









Continues next week!

THE POWERPUFF GIRLS AND ALL RELATED CHARACTERS AND ELEMENTS ARE TRADEMARKS OF AND © CARTOON NETWORK (S04)

WORDWISE

.....IT'S TRICKY.....

Some words sound so similar that people often get them confused. Here are some to watch out for:

affect and effect

affect VERB **1** if something affects you, it influences you in some way. **2** if you affect a particular way of behaving, you behave in that way EG *He affected an Italian accent.*

☑ Something that **affects** you has an **effect** on you.

allude and elude

allude VERB if you allude to something, you refer to it in an indirect way.

☑ **elude** means "avoid" or "escape from".

amoral and immoral

amoral ADJECTIVE someone who is amoral has no moral standards by which to live.

☑ You use **amoral** to talk about people who have no moral standards but **immoral** for people who are aware of moral standards but choose to go against them.

flaunt and flout

flaunt VERB if you flaunt your possessions or talents, you display them too obviously or proudly.

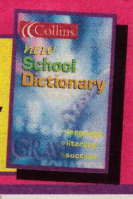
☑ **flout** means "disobey".

its and it's

its ADJECTIVE OR PRONOUN "its" refers to something belonging to or relating to things that have already been mentioned EG *The lion lifted its head.*

☑ **It's**, with the apostrophe, is a short form of *it is* or *it has*: *it's been snowing again.* **Its** is the possessive form of *it*: *the cat has hurt its paw.*

Taken from Collins New School English Dictionary [2nd Edition, ISBN 0-00-712636-0, paperback £5 99]

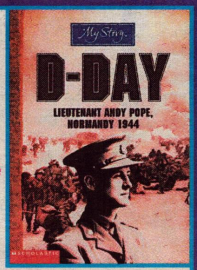


f-mail

WAR REPORT

It's 1944 and 18-year-old Andy Pope is mobilised with the rest of his platoon to cross the English Channel to France. Instructed to secure a village in the middle of the German escape route, young Andy is the only unwounded officer and put in charge. Discover if he succeeds in his mission by reading D-Day by Bryan Perrett from Scholastic Children's Books.

The star f-mailer will receive a copy of D-Day plus £100 worth of other great Scholastic titles. The other f-mailers will receive a copy of D-Day and £30 worth of other books.



STAR

Dear f-mail,

My younger brother is autistic and goes to special school. None of my friends have a disabled relative and sometimes they tease me and say cruel things. My brother is seven and cannot write, but he is highly skilled in other areas. We do not know how much Nicholas will improve later in his life but he reads better than 11-year-olds and is great fun to be around, like any other brother. Don't pick on people who have a disability, think yourself lucky that you haven't got one. Nicholas will read Funday 10 times quicker than me, so I want to say "hello" to my special brother.

Daniel Wells, 10, Burnley

Tom Greenhill, Kent

Beryl will be back soon!

FIXTURE LIST

A guide to this week sporting highlights

TODAY

Totesport League, Gloucestershire v Surrey, Bristol

Despite both counties winning one-day honours in 2003, Surrey and Gloucestershire have had disastrous starts in this season's limited-overs competitions – including big defeats in the National League to in-form Glamorgan. Watch this match live on Sky Sports 3, from 4.15pm.

French MotoGP, Le Mans

In April, Valentino Rossi [above] won his first race with new team Yamaha. The reigning world champion then made steady progress despite rain in Spain with fourth position. Where will the top Italian finish in MotoGP's third round? Watch the bike action on BBC2, from 12.45pm.

MONDAY

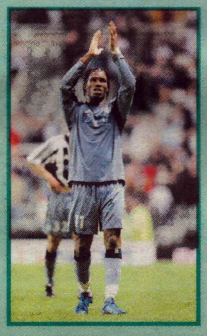
Division One Play-offs, semi-final second leg

The play-offs have many critics but for sheer drama and winner-takes-all stakes, they can't be matched. It's estimated that making it to the Premiership is worth a cool £25m to the play-off winner. Sunderland's Mick McCarthy [left] and West Ham's Alan Pardew [right] are two of the managers hoping to see their teams make it to Cardiff. Live on Sky Sports 1, kick-off 7.45pm.

WEDNESDAY

Uefa Cup final, Marseille v Valencia, Gothenburg

These two sides travel to Sweden for what could be an entertaining European final. The man to watch is Newcastle United-destroyer Didier Drogba – the French striker is a class act who could prove the match-winner for Marseille. The game will be televised live on TV.



THURSDAY

First Test, England v New Zealand, Lord's

After a two-month tour in the West Indies, England start the summer off at home with a three-Test series against New Zealand. The Black Caps are a very dangerous team with the explosive batting of Nathan Astle [below] and pace bowling of Shane Bond. Catch it on Channel 4, 10.30am.

SATURDAY

FA Cup final, Manchester United v Millwall, Cardiff

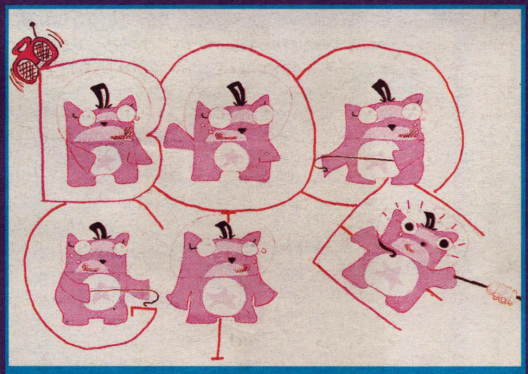
Manchester United may have suffered in the Premiership recently but they surely can't fail against underdogs Millwall? Don't be so sure! The Lions have some talented footballers including Paul Ifill [above] and Tim Cahill. Live on BBC1 and Sky Sports 1, kick-off 3pm.

Scottish FA Cup final, Celtic v Dunfermline, Glasgow

Celtic goal machine Henrik Larsson has enjoyed so much success during his time with the Hoops. Can the Swedish hero finish his footballing career in Scotland with a final flourish at Hampden Park? Kick-off at 3pm, live on Sky Sports 2.

PICTURES: REUTERS/VICTOR FRAILE, AP/JON SUPER/ JEFF J MITCHELL, PA/OWEN HUMPHREYS/SEAN DEMPSEY, DIBYANGSHU SARKAR/AFP/GETTY IMAGES/PAUL GILHAM/GETTY IMAGES

Dear f-mail,
I thought you might like to see one of our hens – Lotty – who frightens all the birds off the bird table. She is very greedy!
Georgia Evan-Jones, 12, Clwyd



Polly Thorburn, 12, Great Clacton

Dear f-mail,
I disagree with what Ibrahim Masood [issue 763] said about bands such as Slipknot being banned from record stores. I respect his opinion on the use of swear words in songs. The reason I disagree, is because they hardly ever swear! I know for a fact, that almost all bands swear at some point in their career, but bands such as Slipknot do not swear as much as rappers like Eminem or 50 Cent.
Jan Ash, 13, via e-mail

Dear f-mail,
I laugh every time I hear this joke!

What's the difference between a wizard and the letters K, E, S, A and M?

One makes spells while the other spells "makes"!
Ben Obrien, via e-mail

COMING

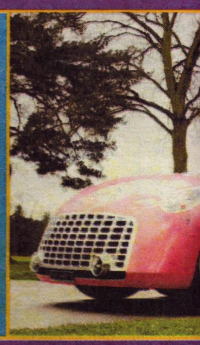
As the blockbusters prepare to premiere on our big screens, Paul

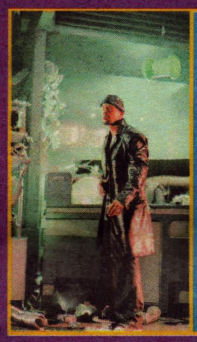
The Day After Tomorrow

Cert: 12A
Release date: May 28
Tagline: Where will you be?
Starring: Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal
Story: Global warming causes a series of monumental climatic events, including tidal waves, volcanic eruptions and tornadoes. Among the carnage, a scientist battles against the elements to rescue his son trapped in a sub-zero New York City
The hype: We have been lucky enough to see snippets and the CGI scenes of New York getting swamped by a giant tidal wave are awesome
Website: www.thedayaftertomorrow.com

Thunderbirds

Cert: PG
Release date: July 23
Tagline: Coming to the Rescue
Starring: Brady Corbet, Bill Paxton, Ben Kingsley and Sophia Myles
Story: The Hood takes over Tracy Island while International Rescue are on a mission, so 15-year-old Alan Tracy has to step into his brothers' shoes!
The hype: A live-action, CGI spectatular of the popular Thunderbirds ... sounds FAB
Website: www.thunderbirdsmovie.uk.com





I, Robot

Cert: tbc
Release date: August 6
Tagline: What will you do with yours?
Starring: Will Smith
Story: Set in 2035, the NS-5 is the world's first fully-automated assistant, programmed not to hurt humans or break the law. But when an NS-5 seems responsible for a murder, a detective begins an investigation ...
The hype: Will Smith, a cool sci-fi premise and some closely-guarded special effects – I, Robot could be a cracker
Website: www.irobotnow.com

Spider-Man 2

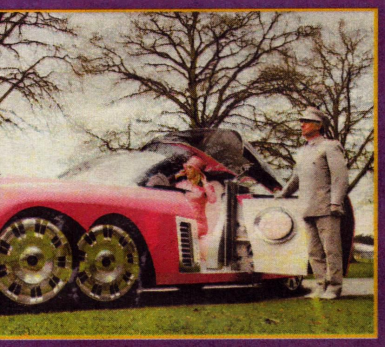
Cert: tbc
Release date: July 15
Starring: Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst and Alfred Molina
Story: Peter Parker still harbours feelings for MJ but continues with his Spider-Man reponsibilities ... and he needs to since a new villian – the multi-tentacled Doc Ock – is terrorising New York
The hype: The benchmark set by the first film was high so it will be interesting to see how it's moved on. Can Doc Ock be a worthy adversary?
Website: www.spider-man2.co.uk

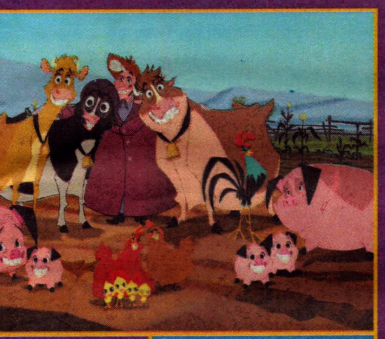
Shrek 2

Cert: tbc
Release date: July 2
Tagline: Once upon another time ...
Starring: Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy, C
Diaz and Jennifer Saunders provide the
Story: Following their honeymoon, Shr
Fiona are invited to dinner by Fiona's pa
Unfortunately, they have no idea that t
daughter is now an ogre!
The hype: If Shrek 2 is half as witty as t
we're in for a treat. Look out for Puss-in
Prince Charming!
Website: www.shrek2.com

G SOON

Wray looks at the films to get excited about in the coming months





meron
voices
k and
rents.
eir

he original,
Boots and

Home On The Range

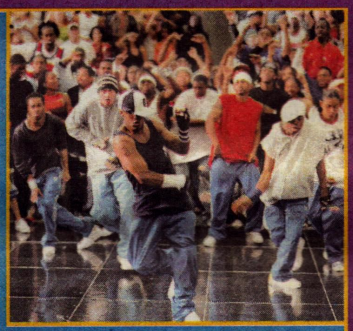
Cert: U
Release date: August 6
Tagline: Bust a moo
Starring: Judi Dench, Jennifer Tilly, Roseanne Barr and Cuba Gooding Jr provide the voices
Story: Set in the Wild West, a group of farmyard animals go hunting for a dangerous outlaw in order to use the bounty to rescue their threatened farm
The hype: Disney's latest traditionally-animated movie is a return to straight comedy. It will be looking to strike gold just like Lilo & Stitch
Website: http://disney.go.com/disneypictures/homeontherange

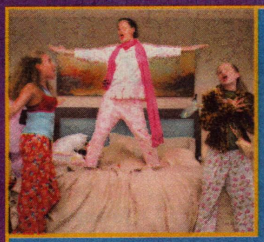
Two Brothers

Cert: tbc
Release date: July 30
Tagline: Two infant tiger cubs, separated from their parents and each other
Starring: Guy Pearce
Story: After being forced apart at birth, two tiger cubs are reunited by an explorer who unknowingly forces them to fight one another
The hype: Low-key this movie may be but it's got a great message at its heart. And who can resist these beautiful baby tigers?
Website: www.twobrothersmovie.net

You Got Served

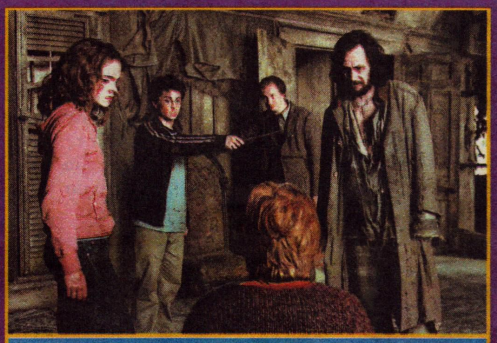
Cert: PG
Release date: June 18
Tagline: If you want respect, you've got to take it
Starring: Sister Sister's Marques Houston plus Omarion, J-Boog, Lil' Fizz and Rz-B of now defunct R&B group B2K
Story: Elgin and David enter a street dance contest against a rival crew to raise money for a studio
The hype: Hot dance-offs and a slick soundtrack to match. But can the B2K boys act?
Website: www.yougotserved.co.uk





13 Going On 30

Cert: 12A
Release date: August 13
Tagline: Be careful what you wish for ...
Starring: Jennifer Garner and Mark Ruffalo
Story: Following a party prank, 13-year-old Jenna Rink wishes that she could grow up fast ... and magically she does. Yet as a grown-up she realises she's missed out on true love
The hype: A surprise hit in America, this is set to be the romantic comedy of the summer. One for the girls!
Website: www.13goingon30.co.uk



Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban

Cert: tbc
Release date: May 31
Tagline: Everything will change
Starring: Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Gary Oldman and Timothy Spall
Story: Many Potter fans' favourite book, Prisoner of Azkaban raises the stakes with the mysterious Sirius Black, Remus Lupin and the creepy Dementors
The hype: The omens are good – a young cast coming of age, a wildcard director in Alfonso Cuaron and the prospects of the Dementors on screen. Eagerly anticipated
Website: www.azkaban.co.uk

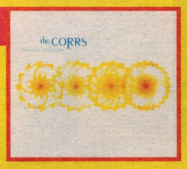
Garfield: The Movie

Cert: tbc
Release date: July 30
Tagline: It's all about me-ow!
Starring: Jennifer Love Hewitt, Breckin Meyer and Bill Murray as the voice of Garfield
Story: Fat cat Garfield has to pull himself away from the TV after his canine counterpart Odie is kipnapped
The hype: Casting Bill Murray as the voice of Garfield was an inspired choice. The CGI looks top notch and this could be the summer's cutest movie
Website: www.garfieldmovie.com

PICTURES: COLUMBIA TRISTAR ... TM & © 2003 DREAMWORKS LLC ... CANNY ENTERPRISES, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX ... WARNER BROS. PICTURES AND PUBLISHING RIGHTS J.K.ROWLING ©2003 UNIVERSAL STUDIOS. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

FRESH! THIS WEEK

SINGLE

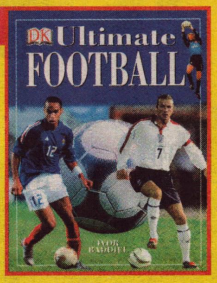


SUMMER SUNSHINE
The Corrs
After a four-year break, Ireland's famous brother and sister combo return with the seasonal single, Summer Sunshine. Gone is The Corrs' trademark fiddle and flute sound, replaced by a guitar-heavy chorus – and it's all the worse for it. Summer Sunshine is instantly forgettable and will probably leave you rather cold.

DVD

SAVED BY THE BELL VOLUME ONE
[cert PG]
US teen sitcom Saved By The Bell ended its term in 1993 but its enduring popularity makes it a re-run favourite. Now out on DVD [£5.99], the school capers of Zack, Slater, Lisa and the nerdy Screech are slightly naff, with the early shows looking dated, but this is comfort TV – appealing, steady fun. Ring in the old skool cool.

BOOK



ULTIMATE FOOTBALL
Ivor Baddiel
With Euro 2004 set to kick off, Ultimate Football [£5.99] is a timely soccer guide. The book has a good variety of picture sections including the history of the beautiful game, great teams and players and, bizarrely, the World Cup. Its content is for the curious young reader rather than the scarf-and-kit supporter, though. Still, give it a run out.

SINGLE

LAST DROP
Kevin Lyttle
Kevin's last single, Turn Me On, was an infectious smash that had everyone trying to mimic his high-pitched vocals. Thankfully, Kevin takes the vocals down a key on Last Drop, but the high-energy Caribbean soca sound is still blazing a trail. Not as instantly appealing as his last hit, but it's a grower that gets better with every listen.

BOOK

THE SLIPPERY SLOPE Lemony Snicket
Funday can't get enough of the dark, inventive and wittily-written A Series of Unfortunate Events stories. In book 10, Violet and Klaus must survive the Mortmain Mountains, rescue sister Sunny from Count Olaf and get to the bottom of the VFD. Does it hold the key to the Baudelaire mystery? Revel in its misery!

SINGLE

ON MY KNEES
The 411 featuring Ghostface Killah
On My Knees has a laidback vibe which could make it the first hot summer single of 2004. A fantastic mix of hip-hop beats, swirling strings, tinkling piano and haunting lyrics will smooth away your worries. The 411 [see our interview with the girls on page 11] have the feel of a new All Saints.

PLAYSTATION 2

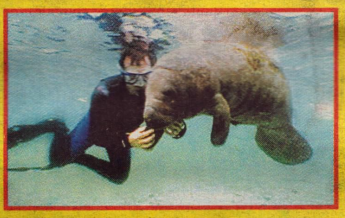
DEADLY SKIES III
Deadly Skies III is a bit of a mish-mash of a gaming experience as fighter plane sim is mixed with animé characters and futuristic story line. As a fighter sim, it's pedestrian rather than exhilarating and the character pop-ups from fellow pilots are just annoying. It could have been a whole lot better. A miss.

TOY

YOTECH FIREBIRD LITE UP
Auto-return system, 32 LED laser light patterns, metal bearings around the axle rods – the specs of the latest Ferrari? No, it's the Firebird Lite Up – the 21st century yo-yo. Plus, with its trick book and CD-Rom, you'll soon be rocking the baby or bouncing Betsy! Available from Toymaster and Toys R Us, priced from £7.99.

TELEVISION

GET WILD! MANATEE
Showing on National Geographical Channel on Monday at 8pm, Go Wild! sees the enthusiastic Kratt brothers – Chris and Martin – get up close and personal with the manatee. They do a good job too, letting this threatened gentle giant of the Florida coast take centre stage. Lots of fascinating did-you-knows are passed on, too!



GOOD | OK | BAD

WIN IT!

ON THE BALL

Euro 2004 football fever starts here! Inside special boxes of Nestlé Shreddies, Cookie Crisp, Nesquik and Golden Nuggets, you'll find miniature football goal kickers. These pint-sized players can be customised with stickers to make mini versions of your favourite stars. Also watch out for Umbro football quiz CD-Roms in packets of Cheerios, Honey Nut Cheerios, Golden Grahams and Cinnamon Grahams.

Nestlé is offering one Funday reader a Compaq NX7010 laptop, £350 worth of Adidas sports goods and a football trivia CD-Rom.

Plus, three runners-up will each win a copy of the trivia CD-Rom.

To enter, tell us which country won Euro 2000.

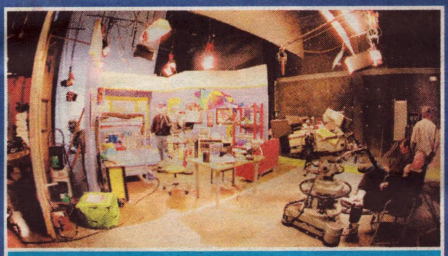
Mark your entry FOOTBALL and send it, with your name, age, address and home telephone number, to the competition address on page 2.

Nestlé

THAT'S SO COOL

Raven Simone gives Funday a guided tour around the set of Disney Channel's hit comedy series, That's So Raven

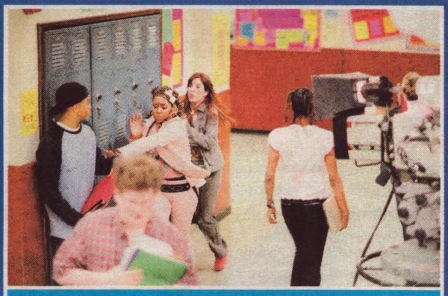
1 Here I am in wardrobe. I like the clothes but they are costumes. They are so elaborate I couldn't wear them to school like my character does. The wardrobe designer, Robin Newland, and I collaborate on the outfits for the show. It's a lot of fun. The worst fashion mistake was when I wore a barracuda outfit!



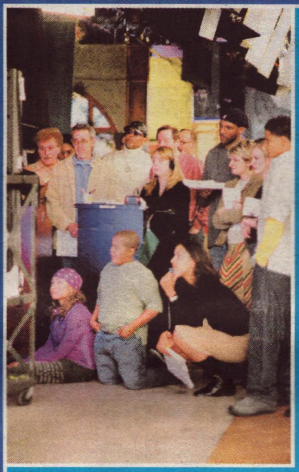
2 I arrive at the set at 10am each morning, but when I went to school it was 8am. It takes me two hours to get ready for shooting, and then I head for the couch in the living room ... it's a great place to nap!

3 The atmosphere on our set is like a family. We all love each other and although we fight like brothers and sisters, in the end we all look out for each other. Here, we're having things adjusted for the next take. Sometimes we do many takes because each time we do things differently. Our prop lady, Francesa, makes sure we always have good edible food on the table!

4 Orlando Brown is the life of the cast. He's always ready and energised. He knows his lines and he always makes us laugh. The best thing about him is the comedy that comes out without him even trying. The worst thing about him is that he's really loud. But that's because he listens to his music really loud and it messes up his ears.



5 Here we are on the school set. I had a great time at school, it wasn't like the one on the show though. I was with my one friend and I just tried to keep my grades up. My favourite subject was maths.



6 It takes a week to film each episode of Raven and this is the cast and crew watching playbacks of a scene that we shot the day before. My favourite moment from making the show so far is when I got to work with Adrienne Bailon [from girlgroup 3LW]. We did a comedy skit together, we sang together and we had a great hairdressing scene, too.

You can watch That's So Raven on Disney Channel, weekdays, at 6pm

HAIL THE KING

The Lord of the Rings trilogy has dominated the cinema over the past three years and its final part – The Return of the King [cert 12] – is out on May 25 to own on DVD.

The third Oscar-winning movie sees Frodo continue his journey with Samwise and Gollum to cast the One Ring into Mount Doom while Gandalf and King Theoden try to inspire Gondor's army to victory. The DVD is also packed with extras that take you behind the scenes of Minas Trith and the Battle of Pelennor – it's a must-have for The Return of the King fans. To celebrate its release, one reader will win The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King DVD, an LG DVD player, The Return of the King PlayStation 2 game and a LOTR goody bag!

Plus, five runners-up will win the DVD, the PS2 game and the goody bag.

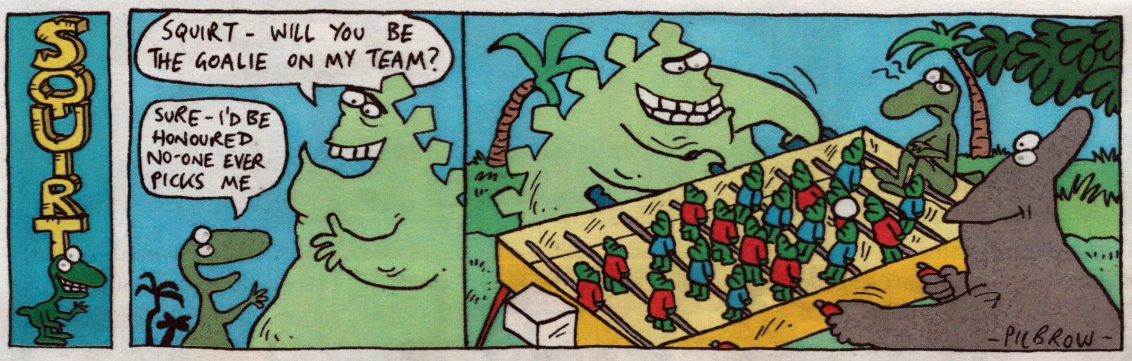
To enter, name the actor who plays Aragorn in The Return of the King.

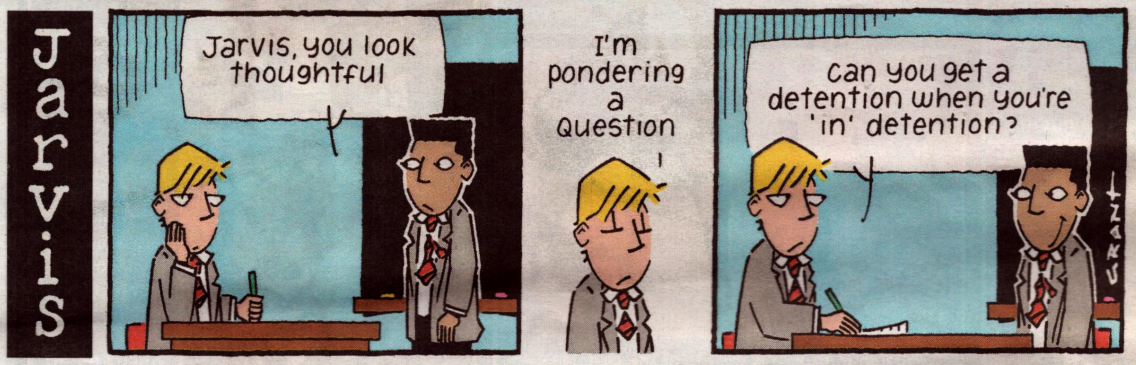
Mark your entry KING and send it, with your name, age, address and home telephone number, to the competition address on page 2.

Normal TNL competition rules apply to all Funday Times competitions

© THE RING, THE RETURN OF THE KING, AND THE NAMES OF THE CHARACTERS, EVENTS, ITEMS AND PLACES, UNDER LICENSE TO NEW LINE PRODUCTIONS, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Enter our competition and be Lord of the Rings!





QF QUICKFIRE

MARK OF SAM & MARK

How tidy was your room when you left this morning?
Ha! It was a complete pigsty.

What CD are you listening to in your player right now?
Will Young.

Which TV programmes do you catch if you can?
Friends.

Who's the most intriguing celebrity you have ever met and why?
Jack Black [School of Rock star], because he's quiet and different from how he appears on screen.

What's your secret geeky thing?
Hmm ... going through my mobile ringtones.

What have you been putting off doing recently that you really ought to get on with?
Sorting out my underwear drawer, getting rid of the old and buying some new ones.

When are you happiest?
When I'm chilling out at home – or singing in front of screaming girls!

What's your motto for life?
Smile and everyone smiles around you.

Sam & Mark's second single, The Sun Has Come Your Way, is released on May 24

CALLING 411

They've been dubbed the hip-hop Supremes, but what are The 411 really like? Funday met the girls to find out

Hi girls, can you tell us a bit about yourselves?

Tanya: I'm 24 and I am from Epsom, in Surrey. Before I joined the band I was a skin care specialist, so I'm trained in facials and other beauty treatments. The other girls always come to me for advice on looking after their skin.

Suzie: I'm 22. I was born in Scotland, moved around with my family and now I live in London. Before joining The 411, I had just left university and wasn't sure what I wanted to do next, so the band came along at just the right time.

Tisha: I'm 19. I was born in Jamaica, lived in America for a while, then came to England when I was six and my mum got a teaching job. I went to stage school to study acting and dancing, but I always wanted to be a singer.

Carolyn: I'm 20 and I am from Kingston. Before the band, I did odd jobs such as selling tyres over the phone and being Santa's helper at an 18th century public garden in Surrey – not very glamorous!

How did you get together to form the group?

Tanya: Myself and Tisha were in the studio doing backing vocals with Lemar. We got chatting to someone from Sony Records there and she said it would be good if we formed our own band. I already knew Carolyn so we asked her to join us. For a while there were just the three of us, but there are already loads of girlbands with three members – such as Mis-Teeq and Sugababes – and we wanted to be a bit different. A friend introduced us to Suzie and we all got on well.

Have you stayed in touch with Lemar?

Tisha: We send text messages back and forth, and he's done some vocals on our album. We're very lucky because Ashanti and Dionne from Big Brovaz have written songs for us, too.

> 411 is the number people call in America for information and hopefully they'll want to know about us

How did you come up with the name The 411?

Tanya: I'm a big fan of Mary J Blige and that was the title of her first album. 411 is also the number people call in America when they want information and hopefully they'll want to know about us.

Can you describe your sound?

Carolyn: We've been called the hip-hop Supremes after the girlband Diana Ross was originally in. We combine lots of harmonies with new beats, so it's a good comparison.

Tanya: But we don't just do hip-hop. All of the songs on our album will be different. There'll be pop, R&B and funk. The first single, On My Knees, already shows how different we are because we speak the words rather than sing them.

Are you worried that people will hear the single and think you can't sing?

Carolyn: A bit, yes. But we supported Lemar on tour and proved we can sing live.

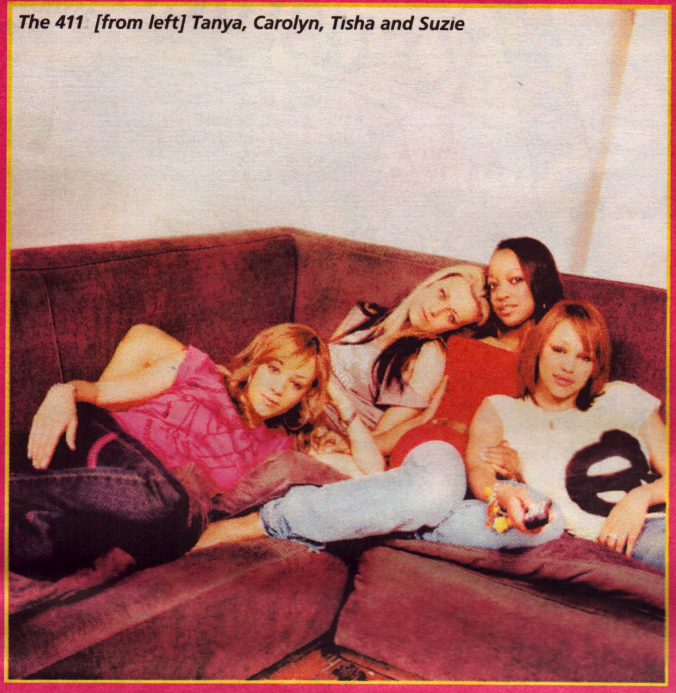
Who are your influences?

Suzie: We're all big fans of Michael Jackson and older girlbands such as SWV. Myself and Carolyn are also into rock. We love The Darkness and Evanescence.

How much songwriting input do you have?

Suzie: We've co-written eight of the 13 tracks on the album, including the single.

The 411 release their debut single, On My Knees, tomorrow

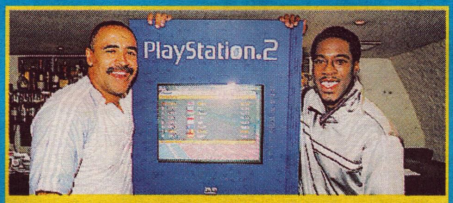


The 411 [from left] Tanya, Carolyn, Tisha and Suzie

©Times Newspapers Ltd 2004. Artwork and transparencies are submitted at the owner's risk and neither The Sunday Times nor its agents accept any liability for loss or damage. Published and printed and licensed for distribution in electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E98 1ST UK, tel 020 7782 5000, and also printed at Kitling Road, Prescot, Merseyside L34 9HN UK. Not to be sold separately from The Sunday Times.

GREEK GAMES

Double gold Olympian Daley Thompson recently launched new PS2 game – Athens 2004. We met Britain's greatest decathlete



Ready for action Daley [left] at the launch with British sprinter Christian Malcolm

Daley, are you a fan of computer games?

I used to play a few when they first came out. Whenever I was at airports there was always a couple of hours with nothing to do so I used to enjoy them. My kids play them now.

Did you have a game named after yourself?

Yes, I used to have my own one – Daley Thompson's Decathlon. [It was out in 1984 for the now-defunct ZX Spectrum!]

Do you have a favourite event on Athens 2004?

I've played a few of them today and I believe I could well be the king of archery!

Would you like the real Olympics to be held in London in 2012?

Oh, that would be the ultimate for me. The only thing I wish I'd been able to do is to have competed in an Olympic Games at home. To do all the things that you like to do, in front of the people that really matter, it doesn't get any better. To be able to perform in front of your mates would be unreal.

Would it inspire a new generation of athletes?

Yes, of course. One of our problems at the moment, and it's a Western society thing, is that our kids don't do enough exercise. Sporting authorities, the Government and parents need to get off their behinds and get youngsters out there doing something. I don't care if it's swimming or hockey. If you knew that in eight years' time – and you're 12 years old now – you'd be going to an Olympics in your own country ... what better incentive to get you training?

Athens 2004 will be out on PlayStation 2 in July

Story: Jesse Leon McCann Art: James Lloyd/Mike Rote ©1999 BONGO ENTERTAINMENT, INC. THE SIMPSONS ©&TM TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM CORPORATION. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED